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STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

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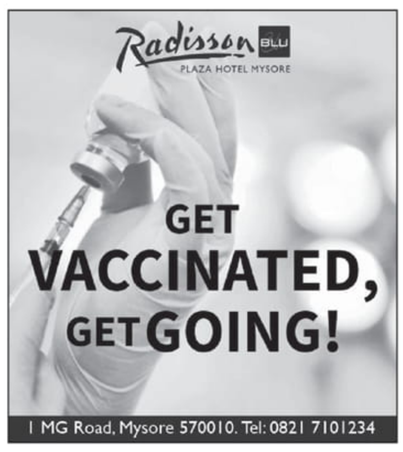

'No Stock' at Govt. Vaccination Sites

Reason: Vaccine stock of 37,000 doses diverted to vaccinate College students

Mysuru, June 30 (RK&SSV)- The Government Vaccination Centres that had put up 'Welcome' boards to greet people for free vaccination till recently, are now displaying 'No Stock' boards. The citizens are not welcomed to the vaccination sites at least till the arrival of fresh stock of vaccine next week.

The reason for non-availability of vaccine for the general public was due to the State Government's decision to vaccinate the College students on priority in order to re-open Colleges from August.

This morning, Charaka Government Ayurveda Post-Graduate Centre in Brindavan Layout, KRS Road, had put up a 'No Stock' board along with the name of Dr. L. Ravi, Reproductive and Child Health Officer and In-Charge of COVID-19 Vaccination in the Government Hospitals, along with his mobile number. The citizens, above 18 years of age, who wanted to take first dose or the second dose, went home disappointed after seeing 'No Stock' board.

(See NO STOCK on page 12)

Private Hospitals to procure vaccines through CoWIN from July 1

New Delhi, June 30 (Agencies)- Private Hospitals will no longer be able to directly procure COVID-19 vaccine supplies from manufacturers and will have to place their orders through the Government's CoWIN platform.

"Yes, they will need to procure through Co-WIN; it is being made a simple and transparent process," said a senior Union Health Ministry official on condition of anonymity. CoWIN is the backbone of the national COVID immunisation delivery management system.

The new procurement process will be operational from tomorrow (July 1). There will be a slot on CoWIN for Private Hospitals to register as private COVID vaccination centres to be able to avail of the facility.

The approval will be granted on CoWIN itself and the payment for vaccine doses will also have to be made electronically through the National Health Authority Portal (NHA), after which the order will be processed.

The Centre is procuring 75 percent of the vaccine supplies produced in a given month to be distributed under its free supply scheme and the remaining 25 percent is left to be taken up by the Private Hospitals across the country based on doses allocated in advance.

The step was taken after a huge disparity was seen in the private sector with vaccination largely limited to big private vaccination centres that tend to buy a major volume from the available 25 percent quota allotted to the private sector.

Don't Close COVID Care Centres

Health Minister tells District Administration

Mysuru, June 30 (PM&SSV)- Health and Medical Education Minister Dr. K. Sudhakar has asked the District Administration not to close down any COVID Care Centres (CCCs) in the district and to shift all Corona positive patients to those centres.

Addressing a meeting at ZP auditorium here yesterday to take stock of the COVID-19 situation, he said the district has 4,351 active cases of which 2,668 patients were in home isolation and the rest were under treatment in CCCs. About 60 percent are in home isolation which was very high. In fact, the State Government had already imposed restriction on home isolation and issued an order to this effect two months ago. Accordingly, the home isolated patients must be immediately shifted to CCCs or to hospitals.

Dr. Sudhakar said house-to-house checking must be done to detect Severe Acute Respiratory Infections (SARI) and Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) cases.

Ex-gratia compensation to kin of COVID victims

Decide within six weeks: Supreme Court to Centre

New Delhi, June 30 (UNI& Agencies)- The Supreme Court (SC) this morning directed the Centre to frame guidelines to pay ex-gratia compensation to the families of those who lost their lives due to COVID-19.

A three-Judge Bench headed by Justice Ashok Bhushan also directed the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to ascertain within 6 weeks an ex-gratia amount that can be paid to the family members of the deceased.

The Court was hearing petitions seeking directions to the Centre to provide ex-gratia compensation of Rs. 4 lakh each to families of people who lost their lives to COVID-19.

The Bench directed that guidelines be framed to fix compensation as per minimum standards of relief.

"Ex-gratia compensation will have financial implications on relief to be provided to the ones who are affected by the disaster. Centre's policy is based on a number of factors and thus it is not proper for this Court to direct a particular amount of compensation. No country has unlimited resources. Dispensation of the same is based on a number of circumstances, facts, law," the SC said.

In an affidavit filed in the Court earlier, the Centre had said that the compensation could not be paid as it would exhaust the disaster relief funds and the disaster management law mandates that relief applies only to natural disasters.

"If an ex-gratia of Rs. 4 lakh is given for every person who loses life, the entire amount of the Disaster Relief Fund may possibly be spent on this item alone and indeed the total expenditure may go up further," the Centre had said. It added that denying compensation for diseases other than COVID would be unfair. The Centre also said due to increased health expenses and low tax revenue, it is beyond States' budget to pay compensation for lakhs of COVID victims.

'Sudharma' Sanskrit Daily Editor K.V. Sampath Kumar passes away

Sampath Kumar

Mysuru, June 30- K.V. Sampath Kumar (64), Managing Editor of ***'Sudharma,'*** **the world's only Sanskrit Daily printed and published from Mysuru,** passed away at his residence in Agrahara this afternoon following a heart attack. He leaves behind his wife Vidushi K.S. Jayalakshmi and a host of relatives and friends.

Sampath Kumar and his wife were selected for the distinguished *Padma Shri* Award last year.

[More details tomorrow]

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STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Wednesday 30th June 2021

Webinar on 'Diabetes, Oral Care'

Mysuru, June 30- A webinar series was organised by Special Interest Group (SIG) - Diabetes and Oral Care, along with Patrons of JSS Dental College & Hospital (JSSDCH), JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research (JSS AHER) from June 26 to 29.

The team was introduced by Dr. Ravindra Shivamurthy, Principal, JSSDCH. The theme of 'Killing the killer - the Diabetes - A Kaleidoscope' had overwhelming registrations.

Pramoda Devi Wadiyar, who was the chief guest, spoke on the importance of nutrition and lifestyle in controlling diabetes. She also stressed the importance of oral hygiene in diabetes.

Dr. B. Manjunatha, Registrar and Dr. P.A. Kushalappa, Director-Academics, JSS AHER, were the guest of honour.

This webinar series was arranged online considering the COVID-19 situation and to create awareness on the management of diabetes in COVID scenario.

The webinar covered a wide range of topics related to diabetes, including basic illness, pharmacology, genetics, nutrition, community factors (medical and dentistry), immunological patterns and oral & therapeutic views. Team Leader Dr. Anitha Subbappa welcomed. Convenor Dr. Suneeth Shetty proposed a vote of thanks.

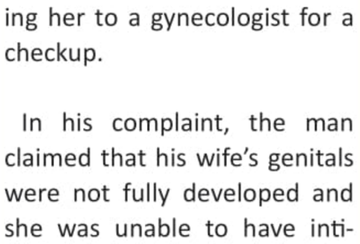
Poster Competition: A National Poster Competition was also organised by the SIG, JSSDCH and JSS AHER. Nearly 300 participants had registered. The SIG team was introduced by Dr. Ravindra Shivamurthy, Principal, JSSDCH. Curaden co-sponsored the prizes worth Rs. 15,000, 10,000 and 6,500.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

Lullabies exist in almost every language and for most of us, lullabies provide a backdrop to our childhoods. If and when we become parents, we try to recall the lullabies our parents sang to us and try to pass them on. It's interesting to note that lullabies have an important place in almost all cultures, the world over and there are concrete reasons why. When babies are born, they not only have a preference for their mother's voice (and the voices of people they have heard extensively before being born), but they also have a preference for the languages they have heard before birth. While there is most definitely a place for recorded music in the life of a child, there is something very special about you singing to your child. In some cases, a parent singing is even more soothing than a recording because of the familiarity of the voice and the emotion. For many babies, lullabies are their first introduction to music and research shows that people develop affinity to music they are exposed to frequently. A starting place could be lullabies in one's own language, but that can slowly extend to different languages and different styles of music. It's also important to remember that not all music for children has to be children's music. Children have the ability to understand and appreciate so much music beyond the realm of nursery rhymes and simple songs. The more exposure a baby or a child has, the better for him or her. So if you're a new parent, or a caregiver, try to introduce as many different lullabies as you can, in different languages! — *Bindu and Ambi Subramaniam in The New Indian Express*

NEWS SPARKLERS

Sues in-laws after wife turns transgender



Kanpur: A man has sued his in-laws after he found out that the woman he had got married is a transgender.

A resident of Kanpur City, in Uttar Pradesh, recently visited a local Police Station to file a complaint against his wife of nearly two months, her family and the marriage mediator, for failing to mention that the woman he was marrying was transgender. He accused his in-laws of deceiving both him and his family by not revealing his wife's original gender at the time of the marriage, on April 28. The unnamed man claims that he only found out that his wife was transgender after taking her to a gynecologist for a checkup.

In his complaint, the man claimed that his wife's genitals were not fully developed and she was unable to have intimate relations with him. Baffled after getting the medical results from the gynecologist, the man immediately visited the Police Station to go after the people he believes are responsible for deceiving him.

Pensioner and rescued pigeon are inseparable

Brittany: Xavier Bouget, an 80-year-old pensioner from France's Brittany region and Blanchon, a white pigeon, have been best friends for two years, ever since Xavier rescued the bird from a cat.

Xavier first met his unlikely companion two years ago, while walking to his house. He noticed this small, featherless pigeon chick fall out of its nest, in a desperate attempt to escape a cat. Xavier came home with the frail bird, not knowing that it would soon become his best friend.

Xavier says that he doesn't know whether Blanchon is grateful to him for having saver her life, but one think he is certain of is that she doesn't stick around just for the food. She can find plenty to eat around and she's always been free to come and go as she pleases. The bird just enjoys his company.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Fixing limited hours of screen time per day, removing TV from the bedroom, avoinding screen at least 2 hours before sleep and after waking up in the morning, stopping background running TV programmes - will help in limiting more screentime and its side effects in children.

By Dr. Bhuvaneshwar U.S. - Consultant Paediatrician

COLUMBIA ASIA
COLUMBIA ASIA HOSPITAL - MYSORE
A unit of ManipalHospitals

**** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature***

Try saline nasal irrigation. Add 1/4 tsp of sea salt to a mug of slightly warm water. Standing over a sink, inhale the water into both nostrils and allow it to drain from your nose and mouth into the sink. Rinse morning and night. Saline rinses are a simple, effective method of relieving sinus symptoms.

COVID-19 UPDATE - MYSURU

DATES	JUNE 28	JUNE 29
Day's Positive Cases	282	415
Total Positive Cases	1,65,792	1,66,207
Day's Discharges	576	471
Total Discharges	1,59,288	1,59,759
Day's Deaths	8	10
Total Deaths	2,153	2,163
Total Active Cases	4,351	4,285

NOTE: Figures as per Government Media Bulletin

India Star Icon Kids Achievers Award conferred on city boy

Mysuru, June 30- The National Academy of Arts Education, Pune, has conferred India Star Icon Kids Achievers Award on B.K. Atri Koushik, an 8th standard student of Vijaya Vittala Vidyashala, Saraswathipuram, recently for his achievement in the field of playing 'Mridanga.'

Disciple of Vid. Ramanujam, Atri is the son of Kiran and Pooja Kiran of Srinagar, Mysuru.

B.K. Atri Koushik

REALLY...?

- ***The word "Mridangam" is formulated by the union (sandhi) of the two Sanskrit words mṛt (clay or earth) and anga (limb), as the earliest versions of the instrument were made of hardened clay.***
- ***In ancient Hindu sculpture, painting and mythology, the mridangam is often depicted as the instrument of choice for a number of deities including Ganesha (the remover of obstacles) and Nandi, who is the vehicle and follower of Shiva. Nandi is said to have played the mridangam during Shiva's primordial tandava dance, causing a divine rhythm to resound across the heavens. The mridangam is thus also known as "deva vaadyam," or "Divine Instrument".***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Magistrate: *What was he doing when you arrested him?*
Policeman: *He was arguing with a taxi driver, Your Honour.*
Magistrate: *That is no proof he was drunk.*
Policeman: *Well, Your Honour, there was no taxi driver there !!*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 74.25
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 102.86
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 20.21
1 Euro	= Rs. 88.39

VOICE OF THE READER

A daughter's nostalgic memories

Sir,

I would like to thank Girija Madhavan and *Star of Mysore* for the nostalgic memories in her article ***"Maharani's College in Old Mysore: A Nostalgic Recall"*** published in *SOM* dated June 14.

Shantha

Girija had mentioned her interaction with my mother H.T. Shantha, who was her logic teacher. The article was very heart-warming as it coincides with my mother's birth centenary year.

She retired from Maharaja's College as Professor of Philosophy and passed away on June 20, 1999.

—M.S. Mothi
Laxmivilas Road
23.6.2021

Dog menace in Rajivnagar

Sir,

I'm a resident of Rajivnagar, Sathagalli A Zone. Our area has very few residents and has a vast land around left for future constructions. Of late the number of stray dogs has increased so much that we are not allowed to freely move around.

Yesterday also there was an incident of dog bite and chasing. We are fed up with this. COVID is still in our lives and to add on, we have this dog menace.

The dogs come in packs and attack the humans. We are worried for kids who innocently sneak out of the house compound. Moreover, the dogs caught from other areas are left here. I hope the MCC authorities will look into this matter and do the needful.

—Md Faizan, Student
Rajivnagar
29.6.2021

Mysuru Zoo to host e-Youth Club from July 25

Mysuru, June 30- Mysuru Zoo is organising e-Youth Club for students aged 12-18 years from July 25 to Jan. 9, 2022. Only 60 students will be selected on first-come-first-serve basis. Classes will be held on Sundays between 11 am and 12.30 pm for 25 Sundays. Students will get exposure to basics of Biodiversity, values of wildlife, conservation of wildlife, Animal Behavioural Studies and captive management of wild animals at Zoo from their home.

One can apply online through Google forms before July 10 through the link: *https://forms.gle/BaXyw3ckmJSnCZHS6*

Camp fee of Rs. 1,000 has to be paid online to Mysore Zoo Account No: 1720-214-0000028; IFSC Code: CNRB0011720 Canara Bank.

Necessary documents — Scanned Copy of photograph (passport size), Aadhaar Card, promoted marks card proof; blood group certificate and fee payment details should be sent to *edumysore99@gmail.com* before July 10. For details, contact Ph: 0821-2520302 or 2440752 or Mob: 96866-68099, according to a press release from the Zoo Executive Director.

Monsoon session of Parliament likely from July 19

New Delhi, June 30 (UNI)- The Monsoon Session of the Parliament is likely to start from July 19 and conclude on August 13, sources said on Tuesday.

'The Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs (CCPA) has recommended a Monsoon Session of Parliament from July 19 to August 13.' sources said.

According to the sources, there will be around 20 sittings.

Road Under Bridges proposal along Ring Road in final stages

MP Pratap Simha meets ADG Road Development

Mysuru, June 30 (BCT)- The proposal to construct four Road Under Bridges (RUB) along the 41.5 kilometre Outer Ring Road that has been declared as National Highway-275 K have reached the final stages.

Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha met Ravishankar, Additional Director General (ADG Road Development), Ministry of Road Transport and Highways at Transport Bhavan, New Delhi requesting him to accord immediate approval for the crucial project.

Pratap Simha told the officer that the RUBs have to be constructed along the 41.5 kilometre Outer Ring Road and a proposal has been sent to the NHAI for approval and the total estimated cost of the RUBs is Rs. 70.58 crore.

The Road Under Bridges have been proposed to be constructed at 5.460 km of NH 275K (Outer Ring Road) with an estimated cost of Rs. 26.98 crore, at 7.060 km with an estimated cost of Rs. 8.90 crore, at 7.860 km with an estimated cost of Rs. 24.92 crore and at 28.585 km of the Outer Ring Road with an estimated cost of Rs. 9.78 crore.

The MP told the officer that initially the road was developed and constructed by Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) in a phased manner and later on it was handed over to NHAI. During construction, MUDA was unable to extend existing RUBs in line with the main carriageway and service roads.

"During my inspection on 10.10.2020, I had instructed the officials to take up the RUBs widening work by box pushing method. In this connection, a Detailed Project Report (DPR) has been already prepared by RITES on a consultancy basis," the MP noted.

The DPR has already been approved by competent authority and the same has been collected and submitted for approval. "It is critical to construct RUBs for smooth movement of traffic," Pratap Simha told the officer.

Bags prestigious ISEES Young Scientist Award

Mysuru, June 30- Dr. K.S. Nithin, Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemistry and Coordinator, Centre for Research and Development (CRD), the National Institute of Engineering (NIE), Mysuru, has been awarded the prestigious ISEES Young Scientist Award - 2021. The award is given away every year by the International Society for Energy, Environment and Sustainability - India, for outstanding achievements in the fields of energy, environment and sustainability. The award consists of a citation, a plaque and cash prize of Rs. 25,000.

Dr. Nithin Kundchira Subramani got the award in recognition of his research work in varied areas such as development of nano-structured materials for effluent treatment, polymer based composite materials for solar energy conversion and storage, mechanically flexible spectral manipulators for UV protection and sensing, electro-active smart materials for pressure sensing, and green polymer composites for fruit and vegetable packing.

Incidentally, Dr. Nithin is the recipient of the Best Ph.D Thesis Award - 2019 by the same organisation for his outstanding doctoral research on polymer based nano-composites for energy harvesting applications. He has more than 110 publications in peer reviewed journals, authored 2 books, 9 book chapters and 1 monograph, according to Dr. N.V. Raghavendra, Principal, NIE, Mysuru.

KMF slashes price of Nandini Milk products

Bengaluru, June 30- In some good news for KMF (Karnataka Milk Federation) consumers, the Milk body has reduced the price of some of the premier products of its famous Nandini Milk brand.

Accordingly, the price of Nandini Ghee has been re-duced from Rs.470 to Rs.450 a kg, a Reduction of Rs.20 a kg. Likewise, the price of Butter, which was sold at Rs.440 a kg, has been reduced to Rs.420 a kg and that of skimmed milk powder from Rs.300 to Rs.270 a kg.

The KMF has appealed the public to make use of this opportunity.

It may be mentioned here that KMF had also reduced the price of some of its products when the deadly COVID-19 pandemic broke out last year.

Besides, it had also offered cheese for free on purchase of Nandini Panneer.

NEWS BRIEFS

Vaccination Drive for college students

Hindustan First Grade College, Mysuru, in association Y's Men Club of Mysuru Chamundi with the Health and Family Welfare Department, is organising a Special Vaccination Drive for the college students (those aged above 18 years) on July 1 at the college campus on Sri Rajarajeshwari Temple Road in J.P. Nagar from 10 am to 5 pm. Students should carry Aadhaar Card and a mobile phone with them compulsorily.

Share facts on drugs

The International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, was observed on June 26 with the theme 'Share Facts On Drugs, Save Lives.' Youth should come forward to share any information they come across about such illicit drugs with the Department concerned or call Mysuru District Police Control Room on Ph: 0821-2418612 or CEN (Cyber Economics and Narcotic Crimes) Crime Police Station on Ph: 0821-2483637, according to a press release from the CEN Crime Police Station Inspector K.R. Raghu.

Ph.D awardee

Mangalore University has awarded Ph.D in Microbiology to BE Dhanya for her thesis 'Characterisation and applications of exopolysaccharides isolated from marine bacteria - Someshwar beach, Dakshina Kannada' submitted under the guidance of Dr. M. Chandra.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM

Maximum	:	**124.80**	feet
Today	:	**93.32**	feet
Yesterday	:	**93.68**	feet
Inflow	:	**2,117**	cusecs
Outflow	:	**4,739**	cusecs

KABINI DAM

Maximum	:	**2,284.00**	feet
Today	:	**2,275.77**	feet
Inflow	:	**1,137**	cusecs
Outflow	:	**700**	cusecs

HARANGI DAM

Maximum	:	**2,859.00**	feet
Today	:	**2,841.08**	feet
Inflow	:	**423**	cusecs
Outflow	:	**80**	cusecs

Safari at Bandipur Tiger Reserve resumes

Only eight tourists go on safari this morning

Gundlupet, June 30 (MTY&KS)- The safari at Bandipur Tiger Reserve, which was stopped two months back following COVID-19 pandemic, resumed this morning with only eight tourists going on the safari in two trips.

Before the safari began, all safari vehicles were disinfected and only four tourists were taken in the Gypsy safari vehicle, which made two trips.

The rent for one Gypsy vehicle is Rs. 4,500 and Rs. 250 per person is charged for the safari.

Bandipur comes under Chamarajanagar district and with the pandemic situation coming under control in the district and included in the list of Category-1 districts, tourism related activities at Bandipur has been given a green signal and accordingly, safari has been restarted.

However, safari at Nagarahole Tiger Reserve, which comes under Mysuru district, is yet to commence as the district is under lockdown till July 5.

Poacher arrested at Anechowkur Forest

Hunsur, June 30 (KK&KS)- A poacher, who had entered Anechowkur Forest Range in Nagarahole Tiger Reserve of Hunsur Wildlife Division to hunt wild animals has been arrested by the Forest Department officials.

The arrested is 52-year-old Narayana Nayak of Chouthi village in Periyapatna taluk. He, along with three others, had entered into the forest illegally on Sunday night to hunt wild animals.

Meanwhile, Anechowkur Forest officials and staff, who were on their regular beat, saw the poachers and after a chase, caught Narayana near Hunusemarada Kandi on the 6th Ring Road in the forest range, while others fled from the spot. The Forest staff have seized a single barrel gun, plastic bag and a machete from him.

A case has been registered and a hunt has been launched to nab others, who are absconding. Range Forest Officer (RFO) Manohar and Forest Guard Diwakar Lambani and other forest staff took part in the operation.

Following the arrest, Hunsur Wildlife Assistant Conservator of Forests (ACF) Satish, Special Tiger Conservation Unit ACF Vivek Kavari, Hunsur Regional Division ACF Nagaraj, Nagarahole Tiger Reserve Deputy Conservator of Forests D. Mahesh Kumar along with about 40 staff undertook a search operation for illegal guns at the villages in forest borders.

ISD Cop dies of heart attack

He was part of the team investigating into usage of satellite phone in forest fringes

Babu

Hanur, June 30 (KS)- A Police Constable attached to **Internal Security Division (ISD)**, collapsed and died of a heart attack, while on duty, near Shagya village at Cauvery Wildlife Range on Tuesday.

The deceased Constable is Babu (38), a resident of Maleyur in Chamarajanagar. He was a part of the team that is investigating into the usage of satellite phone at the villages in forest fringes and around the district in the last few days.

Following the suspicion over usage of satellite phone near Chowgal watch tower, close to Hookunda in Hanur taluk about 4-5 days ago, Chamarajanagar District Police had sent ISD personnel led by Inspector Channanayak to conduct an investigation.

After conducting the preliminary probe, Inspector Channanayak was giving report to senior Police officials from the spot, when Constable Babu collapsed all of a sudden. Though he was being rushed to the nearby Bandalli Health Centre, Babu is said to have breathed his last mid way.

Obituary

Chottemada Parvathi Muthanna

Mysuru, June 30- Chottemada Parvathi Muthanna (Dotty - Kattera), retired Superintendent at Divisional Commissioner's Office, Mysuru, wife of retired District Treasury Officer Chottemada Muthanna, passed away last night in city. She was 86.

A native of B. Shettigeri in Kodagu and a resident of Navilu Road in Kuvempunagar, Mysuru, she leaves behind her husband, two sons and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were held at Chirashantidhama in Gokulam this morning.

Nina Pereira

Nina Pereira (88), wife of late Dr. Nazareth Pereira and a resident of Lashkar Mohalla, passed away yesterday in city. She leaves behind five sons, daughters-in-law, one daughter, son-in-law, grandchildren, great grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends.

Funeral was held at the Catholic Cemetery on Mahadevapura Road in Gandhinagar this noon.

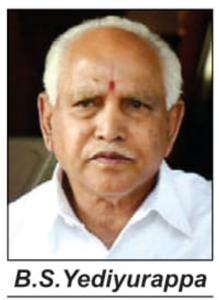
Conceicao Pereira

Conceicao Pereira (76), wife of late J.M. Pereira, retired Band Master of the Police English Band and a resident of Lashkar Mohalla, passed away on June 28 at a private hospital in city following brief illness.

She leaves behind four daughters, sons-in-law, one son, daughter-in-law, grandchildren, great grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends.

Funeral was held at the Catholic Cemetery on Mahadevapura Road in Gandhinagar yesterday.

CM to inaugurate Govt. employees Centenary Bhavan tomorrow



B.S.Yediyurappa

Mysuru, June 30- Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa will inaugurate the newly renovated Centenary Bhavan and Guest House of Karnataka State Government Employees Association at Bengaluru tomorrow (July 1).

Association's Mysuru District Unit President J. Govindaraju in a press release said that Deputy Chief Minister Govind M. Karjol, who is also the PWD Minister, State Chief Secretary P. Ravikumar and other top officials will be present on the occasion.

Pointing out that the association is the sole representative body of over six lakh Government employees, he said that the Association, which was formed in 1920, is a model association for the entire country.

Noting that the Government had sanctioned Rs.12 crore for renovation of the building of the Association, which is celebrating its centenary, Govindaraju said that the renovation works began in Jan. 2020 and now it has been completed. The building will feature a spacious office, a legal consultation centre, a Board Hall, a modern conference Hall with 350 seating capacity, eight air-conditioned VVIP rooms, 40 guest rooms, spacious vehicle parking facility etc.

HC to decide on private school fee on July 22

Bengaluru, June 30 (KMS/DM)- Even as clarity and confusion continues to prevail in respect of Private School fees amidst COVID crisis, the Karnataka High Court (HC) will decide on the Private School fee issue on July 22.

Private School Management Association had petitioned the High Court questioning the Government's order on collecting only 70 percent of school fee. During the hearing of the petition then, the Government had told the HC that it would consider constituting a committee headed by a retired HC Judge to decide on the complex school fee issue.

When the hearing came up again yesterday, Karnataka Advocate General Prabhuling Navadagi told the Court that the interests of school children and their parents is of prime importance in these critical times when the COVID-19 pandemic is causing havoc.

Arguing that it is not a tussle between the Government and Private Schools, Navadagi said that schools must also consider the plight of parents, who are facing a lot of hardship due to the pandemic. The State Government will form a committee headed by a retired Judge to solve the row over school fees, he pointed out. The Court after hearing the arguments in the case, said that it will pass an order on school fee issue on July 22.

Appointed Chief Justice of Himachal HC

Ravi Vijaykumar Malimath

Justice Ravi Vijaykumar Malimath was appointed as an Additional Judge of the Karnataka High Court on Feb. 18, 2008 and Permanent Judge on Feb. 17, 2010

New Delhi, June 30 (UNI) - President Ram Nath Kovind has appointed Justice Ravi Vijaykumar Malimath as the next Chief Justice of Himachal Pradesh High Court, a Government notification said here on Monday.

He will resume his duty on July 1 consequent upon the retirement of the present Chief Justice Lingappa Narayana Swamy.

A notification in this regard has been issued by the Department of Justice, Ministry of Law & Justice yesterday.

Justice Malimath, B.Com, LL B, was enrolled as an Advocate on January 28, 1987. He practised for 20 years at the High Court of Karnataka, High Court of Madras and the Supreme Court of India in Civil, Criminal, Constitutional, Labour, Company, Service cases.

A Constitutional Law expert, he was appointed as an Additional Judge of the Karnataka High Court on February 18, 2008 and Permanent Judge on February 17, 2010. He was transferred to Himachal Pradesh High Court on January 7, 2019.

Death audit expert team to study reasons for high mortality rate in district

Health Minister Dr. K. Sudhakar chairing a meeting at Zilla Panchayat here yesterday as MLAs Tanveer Sait and L. Nagendra, DC Dr. Bagadi Gautham and MCC Commissioner G. Lakshmikantha Reddy look on.

Mysuru, June 30 (PM&SSV)- As COVID Mortality Rate (CMR) is still high at 3.8 percent in Mysuru district, a death audit expert team will be sent to Mysuru to find out reasons, said Health Minister Dr. K. Sudhakar. He was speaking to the media after chairing a meeting to review the COVID situation in the district at Zilla Panchayat auditorium here yesterday.

The Minister said that the mortality rate in the district was still high and the Department wanted to know the reasons for it. In view of this, a death audit expert committee will come to Mysuru soon and a few more technical committees will be constituted to visit hospitals that had recorded maximum number of deaths. Deputy Commissioner (DC) Dr. Bagadi Gautham has been asked collect report from the expert panels and instructions have been given to take steps to decrease the mortality rate. Though, the Case Positivity Rate (CPR) has declined when compared to last week, it was still at 5.48 percent.

The District Administration informed him that it was 2.58 percent on Monday which has to be brought down still further, he added.

He said hot spots in Bannur and Periyapatna have been found in Mysuru District and instructions have been given to declare them as Containment Zones.

The Health Department has identified 20 hot spots in rural areas in the State of which three were in Mysuru district. They are; Aspatre Kaval, Hanagodu and Seehalli. There will be restriction on the movement of people in those places, the Minister added.

More vaccine

When his attention was drawn to the acute shortage of vaccine in the State, Dr. Sudhakar said that he will meet Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan next week and request him to supply more vaccine for the State. "I have never told that the vaccine is not available. Vaccination has not stopped anywhere for want of vaccine. Around 2 lakh to 3 lakh vaccinations are taking place daily. The State has a stock of 5 lakh vaccines. Once the fresh stocks arrives from the Central Government, it will be distributed among all the districts," he said.

The Minister said that the Health Department has filled up 11 posts of specialists and 31 General Duty Doctors. Besides, 174 doctors have been appointed on contract basis to work in Government facilities for a period of one year.

They will work in Taluk and District Hospitals. These doctors will be trained to work in the children ICUs so that their services could be utilised in case of third wave of COVID-19 pandemic, he added.

Don't add old data

Dr. Sudhakar strictly instructed officers in-charge of preparing the Daily COVID Bulletin not to include old deaths in the daily list and to maintain total transparency in placing details before the public. It has been observed that the old deaths have been included in the daily report which will naturally show more number of deaths.

DHO hauled up

District Health Officer (DHO) Dr. K.H. Prasad was pulled up by the Minister for sharing details with media about the scarcity of vaccine in the district.

"You don't share such information with media. The DC will give the necessary information" he said.

Genome sequencing Lab

He said a Genome Sequencing Laboratory will be established at the Mysore Medical College and Research Institute (MMC&RI) for the detection of Delta and Delta Plus cases. Such laboratories will be set up in six districts.

If 10,000 tests are conducted daily, five percent of samples will be sent to these labs. The work of these labs was also to study the mutation of these viruses. So far, only two Delta Plus cases were reported in Karnataka, he added.

Preventive steps have been initiated in the wake of sudden increase in the cases, the Minister added.

Plea to open all vaccination centres

Meanwhile, K.C. Shoukath Pasha, Former Corporator and Secretary of Mysore Beedi Mazdoor Association, who is also involved in getting the public vaccinated at N.R. COVID Care Centre, at the Central Beedi Hospital in Kalyangiri said that though the Health Minister Dr. K. Sudhakar said that there was no shortage of vaccine during the meeting at Zilla Panchayat here yesterday, why thousands of people, who are coming to get themselves vaccinated at various vaccination centres in city are being sent back citing 'No stock of vaccines.'

DHO Dr. K.H. Prasad has given a clear statement about non availability of vaccines for the general public, but why the Health Minister has restricted Dr. Prasad from issuing any statements on vaccination status to the media and others even though he is the authority, he added.

As hundreds of people coming forward to get themselves vaccinated are being sent back, he has urged the authorities concerned to open all vaccination centres as the Minister himself had stated that there was no shortage of vaccines.

Abracadabra... Abracadabra...

By K.B. Ganapathy

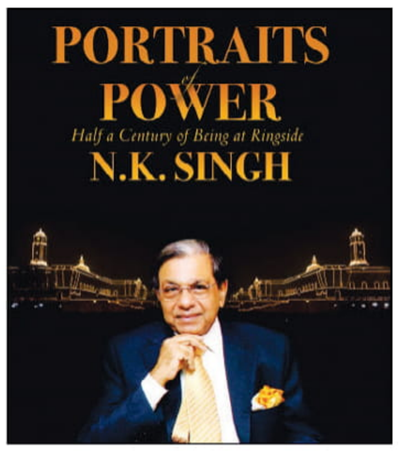
Half a Century of Non-Performing Governance of India ! –2

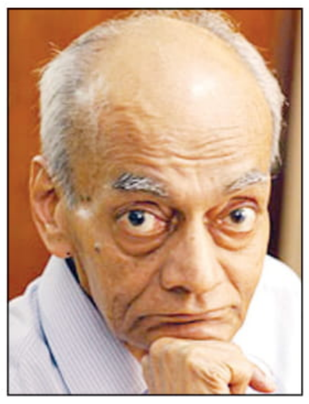
Changes in All India Civil Service selection and training imperative

[Continued from yesterday]

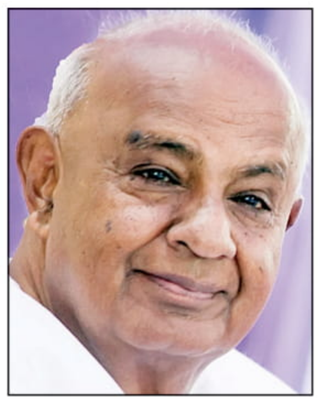
From Chapter-3 we read about the making of a Civil Servant (IAS) like the author N.K. Singh and others.

Born before independence in 1941 in Kolkata as a "premature child" he grows up to be a mature person, an IAS Officer and also a politician, Rajya Sabha Member (MP).

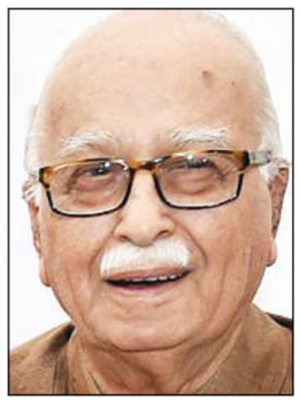




H.Y. Sharada Prasad



H.D. Deve Gowda



L.K. Advani

Narendra Modi

Being from Bihar, he commences his education at St. Xavier's High School, Patna, completes Senior Cambridge Examination in 1957. He was good in elocution competition and this made the then Governor of Bihar Dr. Zakir Hussain (later President of India) to recommend him to join the Queen's College, Oxford. However, he preferred to study at St. Stephen's College, Delhi. He writes that St. Stephen's was regarded as a 'factory' for grooming Officers for both the IAS and Indian Foreign Service (IFS). Now I know how the factory-produced products function — mechanical, stereotype. No wonder, if IAS Officers work like machines. Perish the thought.

As I read the book, it was revealed to me that the country did not develop because of non-performing governance by the civil servants and our democratically elected feudal-kind-of law-makers. And, of course, our bureaucracy is fashioned after the one that worked under the British rule — servile to its British masters. As his master's voice! Naturally, they are now servile to the new masters.

I remember Prof. John Kenneth Galbraith, who was American Ambassador to India saying, rather derisively, about Indian Democracy and its functioning in the following manner. **"Indian Democracy is a functioning anarchy."**

Never a truth is told so nakedly and that truth holds good even to this day. If only the 'steel frame' of bureaucracy (IAS, IFS, IRS and such all India civil service officers) was patriotic, nationalist, honest and hard working, I do not think it is possible for our politicians and the government servants to be corrupt. Instead we have (since independence and surprisingly from Nehru's time) corruption embedded in our administration. Look at the Home Minister of Maharashtra today, for example. Therefore, the prognoses of Winston Churchill and the pronouncement of Prof. Galbraith, tall persons — one a politician-military genius and another academician — are seen as true even after 74 years of freedom !

The author seems obsessed in name-dropping from page-1. And the reader will know Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Mani Shankar Aiyar and Salman Haidar were his collegemates, but in 'being at ringside' as he claims in the title of the book. There is nothing about their later life in the Government. I was curious to know as I had read about them in the newspapers. He also, somehow, brings in the name of our present External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar. It was not relevant at all.

As a student he gets an opportunity to go to Japan but later as an IAS Officer fortuitously he was posted to Japan where he served for nearly four years as the Minister (economic and commerce). If one is fortune's favourite child, everything good comes one's way. Indeed, N.K. Singh is the fortune's favourite child. Though he appears vainglorious about his handling of various offices he held, he appears to be a reasonable, kind gentleman all through his career.

I was surprised that he developed immense interest in Hindustani classical music even while a student at St. Stephen's. He knew not only different Ragas of Hindustani music but also great musicians personally. Amazing! He records that once at a private recital by Kishori Amonkar a guest walked in with a glass of wine and she stopped her recital abruptly. After some persuasion, she came back saying that the pursuit of Indian classical music was a spiritual exercise. N.K. Singh then joins the prestigious (unlike, JNU, I presume) Delhi School of Economics (DSE) where eminent persons like K.N. Raja and Amartya Sen gave lectures. This done he joins St. Stephen's as a lecturer but soon passes IAS and we have this IAS Officer and this book.

At the young age of 23, he was successful in both IAS and IFS exams but ultimately, at the prompting of his mother, joins IAS. His first posting, having chosen Bihar Cadre, was at Ranchi for training under the Deputy Commissioner. Then he was posted to look after land settlement operations. He found studying the land records impossible because the bulk of the land records was written in **Persian.** A Muslim legacy. As today, then too *Amins,* dealing with this matter were corrupt.

However, what surprised me was the records being in **Persian** even after 56 years of freedom at the time N.K. Singh took up this work in 1965. I am sure our IAS Officer N.K. Singh did not take up this important issue, a remnant of Muslim rule of our country, with the Departments concerned, get all the **Persian** records translated into Hindi and English. **This is what I call non-performing governance**. He was just working like an official of the Muslim era or of the Raj days. I will not be surprised even today these records in original are in Persian, after 74 years of independence. Prime Minister Narendra Modi must work to undo this kind of records and pass laws to do so at least under his rule.

Anyway, hereafter, the book is full of five decades of luck and cheer for the author. Being a Mysurean I felt happy about the mention of a Mysurean in the book, H.Y. Sharada Prasad. It was quite complimentary: "No one understood the thinking process and appropriate speech writing skills more than her (Mrs. Gandhi's) Adviser H.Y. Sharada Prasad". I wish he had written more about him and also about other Prime Ministers he worked with. He also mentions former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda, but in very few words that showed Deve Gowda wanting in understanding of the protocol at Davos, Geneva, Switzerland.

As we know there is absolutely no doubt that it was L.K. Advani's famous Ayodhya Ratha Yatra and an extraordinary organisational skill that brought more number of BJP seats to the Parliament. But, unfortunately, when success came to occupy the position as Prime Minister, Advani missed the opportunity and for three reasons as I know.

One was his support to Mr. Narendra Modi as the Chief Minister of Gujarat, even when Atal Bihari Vajpayee was inclined to remove Modi after the 2002 Gujarat riots following Godhra incident. This projected Modi as a prospective Prime Ministerial candidate.

Second was an unfortunate impromptu utterance, in Pakistan during a visit, praising Muhammad Ali Jinnah as a "Secularist".

And the third one, his announcement to the audience in the National Convention of BJP in 1995 in Mumbai that the BJP's Prime Ministerial candidate for the next election in 1996 would be Vajpayee. A case of Advani committing political *harakiri,* when good fortune was at his threshold. That's why we talk of Luck and Destiny. Let it be.

The author makes some wise suggestions to reform our Parliamentary proceedings and they are worth considering seriously for the good of our Democracy, Constitution and Country, coming as it is from a senior bureaucrat with a political background. I wish he had also made suggestions to reform the Indian Civil Service (IAS, IFS, IRS etc.) as well. Looking at the way the present Indian Civil Service is functioning and the quality of persons selected under the present system, it seems the reformation is as important as the Parliamentary proceedings suggested by N.K. Singh, the author of the book.

He has now formally joined the BJP on 22nd March 2014. Any personal agenda? Modi became PM in May 2014. Be that as it may, the book is readable for those who followed politics of those decades, like me. But I am disappointed because I did not get what I expected from a person who claims to write after half a century of being at Ringside of Power.

[Concluded]

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Strict surveillance at all Kodagu borders

Despite stringent measures tourists come unabated, become headache to Police, health staff

Kushalnagar/ Madikeri, June 30 (Akshay&BCT)- In an effort to contain the number of COVID-19 cases, the Kodagu District Administration, in accordance with the State Government guidelines, has begun stringent checking at borders and all the tourists, general public and other travellers towards Mangaluru from Mysuru are being checked.

Suspect persons are being hand-stamped and their details, purpose of visit and stay nored down. Exclusive check-posts have been set up at places like Guddehosur to check the tourist flow from the Kushalnagar side. The order came after the Deputy Commissioner (DC) and Superintendent of Police (SP) notified that COVID-19 cases need to be regulated in the district.

All visitors from Kerala are being insisted on producing either COVID-negative certificate (done 72 hours prior to check-in) or vaccine completion certificate. Those who are not in possession of either of these two are subjected to on-the-spot RAT tests.

Kodagu shares its border with Kerala and the District Administration has its task cut out since many are travelling to the district at a time when concerns are expressed over the increase in Delta Plus variants in the neighbouring State.

RAT test at Makutta border.

Officials from the Health, Revenue and Police Department have been appointed at Kushalnagar, Koppa, Guddehosur, Shanivarsanthe, Shirangala, Karike, Makutta, Anechowkur, Siddapura, Kutta and Sampaje check-posts to verify the reports of all visitors coming in from Kerala and other places. Kushalnagar Inspector Mahesh and Virajpet Taluk Health Officer Yathiraj told *Star of Mysore* that they have been asked to carry out stringent tests at all borders. Due to this strict measure, long lines of vehicles are usually seen at the check-posts.

An exclusive check-post has been set up at Guddehosur near Kushalnagar to screen tourists arriving from Mysuru-side through Koppa Gate as Guddehosur is the single entry and exit point for all tourist vehicles coming to Kodagu from Kushalnagar.

Testing all travellers at check-posts has become a headache to the Police as many travellers say that they are proceeding to Mangaluru. "But they stay here in Kodagu. How can we monitor them? Still, their addresses are being noted down," said a Police officer. Yesterday alone, over 20 travellers were hand-stamped at Guddehosur check-post and they have been quarantined, Police said.

Despite restrictions, however, tourists are coming to Kodagu unabated and are flooding the homestays and resorts, causing resentment among the local population. Based on complaints, a couple of homestays have been sealed and cases have been booked under Disaster Management Act. Tourists, mostly the IT crowd from Bengaluru are spotted at several places and the Police too are questioning them after stopping their vehicles in town areas. Those who have been spotted have been warned to return immediately.

On some homestays functioning despite the lockdown restrictions, Kodagu Homestays Association President B.G. Anandhashayana said that most of the homestays that are functioning now are illegal ones. "Only 250 homestays are registered in Kodagu and there are more than 1,000 homestays that do not come under the Association umbrella. Those who are registered have been advised not to open for tourists unless the Govt. permits them to do so," he said.

Govt. plans to vaccinate all College students on single day next month

No jab, no offline classes; 15 lakh doses required; 5 lakh doses stocked

Bengaluru, June 30 (KMS& SSV)- The State Government has decided to vaccinate all college students above 18 years of age on the single day, said Deputy Chief Minister & State COVID-19 Ministerial Task Force Chairman, Dr. C.N. Ashwathanarayana.

Addressing media after convening a meeting with officials of Departments of Health and Medical Education here yesterday, he said the Government is planning to open all degree colleges and professional colleges from August and wants to inoculate all the students before July 31. This will require 15 lakh doses and has already stocked 5 lakh doses. More stock of vaccine is expected in the coming days. A mega vaccination drive will be held during the first or the second week of July and all the students will be vaccinated on one day across the State. The vaccination drive will be held in the campus of universities or the colleges. Students can take the vaccine in their respective colleges. Those who will not take vaccine will not be permitted to attend offline classes.

He said decision to vaccinate the college students has been taken as per recommendations of the Expert Committee on third wave of COVID-19 headed by Dr. Devi Shetty. The colleges have not been opened since last one-and-a-half-years and the classes were held online. Barring final semester, students of all other semesters are promoted to next classes without holding the examinations. The vaccination drive for Higher Education students has been initiated on June 28 (Monday) and 94,000 students have been vaccinated on the first day. The authorities concerned have been directed to vaccinate all students under this group within 10 days.

Dr. Ashwathanarayana said as many as 60 lakh vaccines have been supplied to the State during June and this will be increased in the coming months. As of the date, Karnataka stands third in the country, in the overall achievement with respect to vaccination and other parameters of COVID management.

Oxygen generation

He said oxygen generation capacity will be enhanced by 400 MT. This comprises 250 MT in hospitals coming under the Department of Health and the remaining in Medical College Hospitals and Private Hospitals and also arrangements made by District Commissioners under Disaster Management Act.

Similarly, Oxygen storage capacity will be increased by about 2500-2800 MT. This consists of 1806 MT in hospitals working under the Department of Health, 500 MT in Medical College Hospitals. Each district hospital will have a minimum of 20 MT oxygen storage capacity and Taluk Hospital will have a minimum of 6 MT capacity. Global tenders will be floated to procure tankers which are essential to store liquid oxygen. Authorities concerned have been directed to increase the oxygenated beds to 84,000 from the existing 58,000 beds. Private Hospitals without oxygen storage facilities have already been issued notices, and they have to mandatorily make arrangements by August end.

Oxygen Cylinder Refilling Plants will be given financial aid to double their capacity and refilling facility will be set up in 9 districts which do not have oxygen refilling facility at present.

Javed Akthar, Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Dept. of Health, Vandita Sharma, ACS & In-Charge of Vaccination, Anil Kumar, Secretary, Dept. of Medical Education, Manish Moudgil, In-Charge of Oxygen facility, were present.

Police Inspectors transferred

Mysuru, June 30 (SPN&DM)- In yet another reshuffle of Police force, the Government on Tuesday transferred 65 Police Inspectors (Civil) across the State.

According to the Transfer orders, Mysuru's Siddharthanagar Traffice Police Inspector B. Basavaraj has been transferred to Karnataka Lokayukta, while V.V. Puram Police Inspector L. Arun has been posted as Talakad Inspector in T. Narasipur, D.P. Dhanaraj as Halagur Inspector in Malavalli taluk and M.L. Shekar as Siddarthanagar Traffic Police Inspector at Mysuru.

In other transfers, CID Police Inspector K.N. Harish has been posted as Maddur Police Inpector, CID Inspector C.A. Manjappa to Kutta Police Station in Kodagu, A.K. Rajesh as Malavalli Rural Circle Inspector, ISD Inspector S. Hemanth Kumar as Alur Circle Inspector in Hassan, H.D. Kote Inspector K. Rajendra to Karnataka Lok Ayukta and State Intelligence Inspector Basavaraju as H.D. Kote Circle Police Inspector.

7 IAS Officers transferred

Bengaluru, June 30- In a minor reshuffle of the State bureaucracy, the State Government on Tuesday transferred 7 IAS officers, including Bengaluru's BMTC MD C. Shikha, who had earlier served as Mysuru Deputy Commissioner.

As per the transfer orders, Dr. M.N. Ajay Nagabhushan has been posted as Secretary, Urban Development Department (Urban Development and Municipalities), while Shikha has been posted as Commissioner for Commercial Taxes at Bengaluru, M. Kanagavalli as Controller of Examinations, KPSC (Karnataka Public Service Commission), Bengaluru and M.S. Archana as Member of Karnataka Appellate Tribunal at Bengaluru.

In other transfers, Salma K. Fahim has been posted as Additional Secretary of Infrastructure Development Department at Bengaluru, Raghunandan Murthy as Addl. Commissioner for Commercial Taxes (Enforcement) at Bengaluru and S. Ramya as Executive Director of Karnataka Examination Authority at Bengaluru.

In this week's Pet Talk, Maneka answers queries like do fish sleep? Do they make sounds? And more...

Pet Talk

Maneka Gandhi

What should we do if a snake bites an animal?

Tie a tourniquet 3-4 inches above the site of the bite. Give a small incision at the site with a clean blade and allow the wound to bleed. Call the Veterinarian immediately. If you think your pet has been bitten by a snake you should keep him calm and take him to a vet immediately. The chances of recovery are much greater if your pet is treated early — with some pets making a recovery within 48 hours. Pets left untreated have a much lower survival rate and many die. If your vet is some distance away, if practical, you can apply a pressure bandage — a firm bandage over and around the bite site — to help slow the venom spreading to the heart. Do not directly wash the wound or apply a tourniquet over it. Here are some things that you can do in terms of how to treat a snake bite on a dog, but don't waste time doing this instead of driving to the vet hospital:

• If you see the bite wound, rinse the wound with water to remove some venom.

• Keep the wound below the heart and keep your pet as still as possible to discourage the spread of venom.

• If your pet isn't breathing, call the veterinary clinic for instructions for how to administer CPR.

• Keep calm. Pets can sense panic, which can cause them stress. An increase in stress levels may cause venom to be circulated in the body more quickly.

Can snakes swim?

All snakes can swim. Snakes swim by moving their body in lateral, wave-like movements, more or less appearing to shape their body in an S pattern. Swimming comes to all snakes and most animals of animal kingdom, instinctively. Predominantly aquatic snakes will spend majority of the time in water.

Conditions on factory farms and fur farms aren't any worse than conditions in the wild, where animals die of starvation, disease or predation, are they?

This same argument was once used by US slave owners, who claimed that African-Americans were better off as slaves on plantations than as free men and women. People in prison are also fed and protected, yet a prison sentence is considered one of society's harshest punishments.

Animals on factory farms suffer so much that it is inconceivable that they could not be worse off in the wild. The wild isn't "wild" to the animals who live there; it's their home. There they have their freedom and can engage in activities that are natural and important to them. The fact that they might suffer in the wild is no reason to ensure that they suffer in captivity.

Where do birds go when it rains?

Birds can and do take shelter from rain: in bushes, in reeds, under leaves, in nesting cavities. The larger sized seabirds can handle a little bit of rain. In fact, they don't like to let a storm deter them from going about their day. Smaller seabirds, on the other hand, seek shelter on land and like to perch in some sort of shelter, such as trees, until the storm has passed. Land birds are already shielded, because their feathers shed rain and trap air to keep them warm. *[https://www.natureoutside.com/where-do-birds-go-when-it-rains/]*

Birds stay as still as they can on purpose, so they can help preserve their energy. When it rains, song birds will seek shelter in the foliage and remain as still as possible to retain energy. They perch so that they are facing into the wind, which reduces air resistance and helps them to hold onto that all-important body heat for longer.

Do bats really suck blood like vampires?

No, bats do not suck blood like vampires, but a particular species, called vampire bats which does not exist in India, feeds on the blood of horses, pigs and even birds. They hunt at night, when other animals are sleeping. They don't suck blood. They use heat sensors to find a victim's veins. Sharp teeth cut the animal and the bat simply laps up the little blood that oozes out.

Do fish sleep?

The nature of fish "sleep" is an area of active research. While fish do not sleep in the same way that land mammals sleep, most fish do rest. Research shows that fish may reduce their activity and metabolism while remaining alert to danger. Some fish float in place, some wedge themselves into a secure spot in the mud or coral, and some locate a suitable nest. These periods of "suspended animation" may perform the same restorative functions as sleep does in people. Some nestle into the bottom of whatever body of water they live in (like the rocks in a fish bowl or the sand in the sea) while others hover close to the bottom, barely moving except for flickering the occasional fin to stay steady. Even though they are asleep, fish are still alert for danger.

Can fish make sounds?

Yes, many fish do make sounds underwater. The noises have been categorised as grunts, squeaks, knocks, drumming, tapping, booming, croaking, growling and snorting. Sounds may be intentionally produced as signals to predators or competitors, to attract mates, or as a response to fright. The majority of sounds produced by fishes are of low frequency and are not audible to humans.

Which is the most trafficked mammal in the world?

Pangolins — scaly, shy and sensitive — are believed to be the world's most trafficked mammals. A million Pangolins were poached from 2000 through 2013, leading to fears it could become extinct.

Pangolins are eaten as bushmeat in Western and Central Africa and by some indigenous groups in South and Southeast Asia. Their parts also are used in Ghana, Nigeria, South Africa and elsewhere in Sub-Saharan Africa as traditional medicine. China is the main consumer. In Vietnam and China, Pangolin meat is considered a delicacy. But it is the demand for their scales that is wiping out the animals.

Can I put food out for the wild parrots? If so then what would they like to eat?

The best foods for parrots/ parakeets are fresh vegetables, fruit and pellets or seeds. In the wild, parrots' diet can vary considerably and they like to eat fruit and fruit seeds, nuts, flowers and corn where they can find it. A variety of different seeds can be put out, including safflower, millets, oats, buckwheat and canary seeds. Sunflower seeds can be problematic due to the fat content and are best given in moderation only.

Nuts like cashews, shelled peanuts and grains like barley, rice and quinoa and oatmeal. As far as possible, put out organic fruit and wash it thoroughly before dishing it up. Fresh vegetables like carrot bits, bell peppers, broccoli, corn on the cob, hot peppers, sweet potatoes beans are recommended, including black beans, green beans and kidney beans. Lentils, peas, tofu and chickpeas can also be given. All except kidney beans can be fed raw if desired.

Can I house the turtle along with fish in my aquarium?

Turtles are not compatible with fishes, as they will try to hunt the fishes. Certain sizes and types of fishes are never safe in the same tank with a turtle. For example, guppies and goldfishes are never compatible with turtles. Putting such fishes along with a turtle will create a total disaster. But why do you want to create so much stress for fish. Another important thing to consider when keeping turtles and fishes together is the space. Turtles can grow very large when they are adult. A typical water turtle, like red-eared slider, can reach 10 to 12 inches long. So, you need to keep in mind that if the tank is too small, it will create territorial problems among the turtle and fishes. So, if you are planning to keep turtles and fishes together, try to go for at least an 100-gallon tank.

Apart from extra space, provide plentiful hiding spots and visual barriers, and ensure that all captives are very well fed. Always use a very large habitat when keeping multiple animals together, irrespective of the species involved. Whereas a single red ear slider may thrive in a 55- or 75-gallon habitat, two turtles should have at least 100 gallons of space, and 200 would be much better. The extra space keeps the animals from being forced into constant contact, which can cause stress. Additionally, it's important to break up the cage with various hiding spots and visual barriers so a submissive animal can escape a dominant one.

Where do butterflies spend the night?

At night, or during inclement weather, most butterflies perch on the underside of a leaf, crawl deep between blades of grass, or into a crevice in rocks, or find some other shelter, and sleep.

To join the animal welfare movement contact
gandhim@nic.in
www.peopleforanimalsindia.org

PFA HELPLINE

Savitha Nagabhushan - 9845654429
DOGS, PUPPIES, CATS, KITTENS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION [Contact: Ph: 0821-2598213]
Timings: 8 am to 8 pm

SEND YOUR QUESTIONS

Readers with queries about their pets health, care and behavioural issues may send their questions to *SOM* : *voice@starofmysore.com*

Real heroes: Brain-dead Mandya farmer's vital organs donated

Mysuru, June 30 (YDS&BCT)- There are very few selfless people whose will to help others never ends even when they themselves are in pain. One such example has been set by the family of a farmer in Mandya who was declared brain dead. The family did not think twice before donating his heart, lungs, kidneys, liver and other vital organs to those in need.

P. Ramakrishna (50), a native of Ajjahalli in Maddur taluk in Mandya, met with an accident near the Check-Post at Srirangapatna four days back. He was coming to Mysuru on a bike when a speeding vehicle rammed against his two-wheeler. He was rushed to Suyog Hospital at Ramakrishnanagar where a CT scan was conducted when doctors found that Ramakrishna was critically injured.

Despite being treated for two days, Ramakrishna did not respond to the treatment and was declared brain dead. Accordingly, the parents were informed and in spite of being in deep pain of losing a loved one, the family decided to donate his organs.

Ramakrishna was healthy before the incident and further tests confirmed his eligibility for organ donation. The family was counselled and the procedures were explained to them as per the defined protocol.

Not wasting time, the Suyog Hospital authorities coordinated with BGS Global Hospital at Kengeri in Bengaluru to facilitate the procedures of organ transplant. P.J. Arun Kumar, Senior Manager (Operations), Suyog Hospital told *Star of Mysore* that an ambulance with ventilator support was prepared to shift Ramakrishna to Bengaluru.

Simultaneously, the Police of Mysuru, Mandya and Bengaluru were informed about the necessity of a Green Corridor. The Mysuru Police, along with their counterparts at Srirangapatna, Mandya, Maddur and Kengeri created a corridor free of traffic signals to facilitate transfer of the patient. This system is also referred to as the Green Corridor wherein all the traffic lights on the particular route are lit green.

Ambulance driver 24-year-old Darshan, who is an expert in handling such cases, was summoned to shift the patient. The journey began from Ramakrishnanagar in Mysuru at around 4.30 pm and reached Bengaluru within two hours so that the organs could be retrieved.

As per the organ donation protocol, officials from Jeeva Sarthakathe, which was earlier known as ZCCK or Zonal Coordination Committee of Karnataka, for organ transplant, initiated the process in accordance with the waiting list of organ recipients, said sources. However, details are not available on the recipients, who had registered with Jeeva Sarthakathe and were waiting for the organs.

One Nation, One Ration card must by July 31: SC

New Delhi, June 30 (UNI& Agencies)- The Supreme Court (SC) yesterday directed States and Union Territories to implement the 'one nation, one ration card' scheme by July 31, while asking the Centre to provide dry ration for free distribution among migrant workers till the pandemic continues.

Maintaining that right to food was included in right to life under Article 21 of the Constitution, a Bench led by Justice Ashok Bhushan said Governments were duty-bound to provide food security to migrant workers exposed to financial and other hardships amid COVID.

"There is a large number of such migrants who do not possess any card. Their above disability is due to their poverty and lack of education. A large number of migrant workers are not able to get jobs which may satisfy their basic needs. A Government cannot abdicate its duties to feed migrant workers, especially during a pandemic, merely because they did not have ration cards," the Court noted.

The SC directed the Centre to allocate additional foodgrain to the States and UTs as per their demand for distribution among migrants. It also asked the Centre to set up a portal for registering migrant workers to create a national database for the scheme.

"We direct the States to bring in place a scheme for distribution of dry ration to migrant labourers," said the Bench, which also included Justice M.R. Shah. The SC pulled up the Labour Ministry for its "lackadaisical attitude" in dealing with the issue. "When the unorganised workers are waiting for registration to reap the benefits of welfare schemes, the apathy of the Ministry of Labour and Employment is unpardonable," the Court noted.

Right to food, one of the bare necessities of life, was an intrinsic part of the right to live with dignity, the Court told the Government. "States/UTs have to make extra efforts to reach migrant labourers so that no migrant labourer is denied two meals a day. Community kitchens must be run at prominent places for feeding those migrant labourers who do not have sufficient means to procure two meals a day," it said.

Both, in the first and the second wave of the pandemic, migrant workers had been exposed to financial and other forms of hardships due to their limited access and claim to the welfare resources. Migrant labourers are particularly vulnerable to the economic regression, the court noted. It suggested that the Centre ought to redetermine the beneficiaries under the Food Security Act in both the urban and rural areas.

WHO's report cautions against overestimating benefits of Artificial Intelligence for health

Geneva, June 30 (UNI)- The World Health Organisation (WHO), in a report released on Monday, has cautioned against unregulated use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in health system.

"Like all new technology, Artificial Intelligence holds enormous potential for improving the health of millions of people around the world, but like all technology it can also be misused and cause harm," said Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General.

"This important new report provides a valuable guide for countries on how to maximise the benefits of AI, while minimising its risks and avoiding its pitfalls," he added.

Along with the report, "Ethics and governance of Artificial Intelligence for health" WHO also published six broad principles regarding use of AI in the health system.

AI can be and in some wealthy countries is already being used to improve the speed and accuracy of diagnosis and screening for diseases; to assist with clinical care; strengthen health research and drug development and support diverse public health interventions such as disease surveillance, outbreak response and health systems management. It could also empower patients to take greater control of their own health care and better understand their evolving needs.

However, WHO's new report cautions against overestimating the benefits of AI for health, especially when this occurs at the expense of core investments and strategies required to achieve universal health coverage.

"Opportunities are linked to challenges and risks, including unethical collection and use of health data; biases encoded in algorithms, and risks of AI to patient safety, cyber security, and the environment," said WHO in a press release.

The report warns about potential unregulated use of AI subordinating the rights and interests of patients and communities to the powerful commercial interests of technology companies or the interests of Governments in surveillance and social control.

It also emphasises that systems trained primarily on data collected from individuals in high-income countries may not perform well for individuals in low-and middle-income settings.

WHO has come out with six principles to ensure AI works for the public interest in all countries. The UN body has said that privacy and confidentiality should be protected, and patients must give valid informed consent through appropriate legal frameworks for data protection.

PM reiterates commitment to provide free vaccines to all

Narendra Modi

New Delhi, June 30 (UNI)- Congratulating all those participating in the country's COVID vaccination drive, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday reiterated his commitment to provide free vaccines to all. In a tweet, the Prime Minister said, 'India's vaccination drive keeps gaining momentum! Congrats to all those who are driving this effort. Our commitment remains vaccines for all, free for all.'

The PM has also shared a graphics related to vaccination of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare along with his tweet.

In this graphics, comparative figures have been given on total number of vaccine doses administered in the country so far and vaccinations abroad. According to these figures, India has overtaken the US in the total number of COVID vaccines administered so far.

While India has administered over 32.36 crore doses so far since January 16, 2021, the US, where the vaccination drive commenced from December 14, 2020, has vaccinated 32.33 crore people.

WORD OF THE DAY

Emulous

Pronunciation: em-yuh-luhs
Meaning: Desirous of equaling or excelling.
Origin: The English adjective emulous, "desirous of equaling or excelling; jealous, envious," comes from Latin aemulus with the same meanings, both positive and negative. Aemulus is a Latin derivative of the rare Proto-Indo-European root aim-, im– "to copy, imitate." From that same root Latin derives imāgō (inflectional stem imāgin-) "picture, likeness, reflection (in a mirror)," source of English image, imagine and imago (a technical term in entomology and psychoanalysis), the Latin verb imitārī "to copy, reproduce, imitate," source of English imitate, imitation, and the Latin adjective inimitābilis "unable to be reproduced or copied, inimitable." Emulous entered English in the 14th century.
Example: Tastefully emulous, Villard wanted his home to transcend its less fashionable location and magnify its owners through classical restraint rather than ostentatious display. —"New York Bookshelf: Villard: The Life And Times Of An American Titan", New York Times, May 13, 2001

THE ODD WORD

Ecrevisse

Freshwater lobster.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

The cock of the walk

Meaning: The phrase refers to someone who acts more important than others in a group.
Origin: The origin of the idiom "cock of the walk" isn't known, but this slang term has been in use for more than two hundred years. One story says that in the early 1800s, boatmen traveling the Mississippi River held prize fights between champion fighters from different boats for entertainment. The winner was awarded the title "Cock of the walk" meaning "best of the best".
Example: "Jaime loved acting the cock of the walk and ordering everyone around."

QUOTE BOX

Dream big and dare to fail. **—Norman Vaughan**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

ANOTHER 1

Answer :One right after another.

SUDOKU

7				4		9		
					1			7
		5			6	2		3
3	1				2			
			3		9			
			4				3	8
9		4	2			5		
5			7					
		6		3				9

Answer to previous puzzle

5	2	3	4	1	9	6	7	8
1	6	7	3	2	8	9	4	5
4	9	8	7	6	5	2	3	1
9	8	5	1	7	2	4	6	3
6	7	2	8	3	4	1	5	9
3	1	4	9	5	6	7	8	2
2	4	9	6	8	3	5	1	7
8	5	1	2	4	7	3	9	6
7	3	6	5	9	1	8	2	4

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

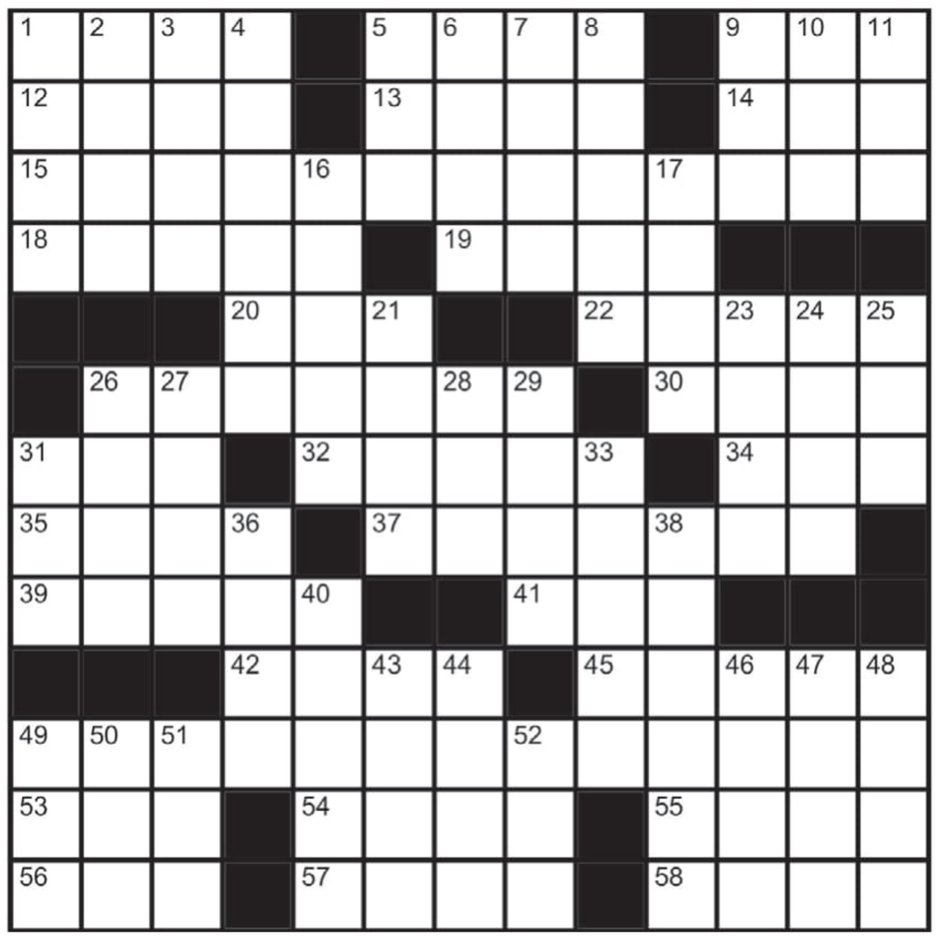
1 A group of southern African native warriors
5 Viper like snakes
9 Church bench
12 Scottish town - "nob a" anagram
13 Artificial Intelligence Advisory Committee
14 Pray for us - ___ pro nobis ?
15 Laundry requisite (7,6)
18 Guwahati locale
19 Ring of light
20 Long playing records, in short
22 Napped
26 Small loudspeaker
30 Hindu deity
31 Magnetic Resonance Imaging
32 Clear or transparent
34 Storage container
35 Yielding or malleable
37 Willing to obey
39 This drives some train engines
41 Air Transp. Radio
42 Capital of Shaanxi province, China
45 Large horns
49 Bird-watcher
53 Play on words
54 Duty-roster
55 A plant with bitter juice
56 Behold, look
57 Looked at keenly
58 Right and ___ : on all sides?

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

A	I	A	C	■	C	H	E	F	■	C	O	S
A	B	B	A	■	O	R	S	O	■	C	R	I
H	A	R	P	■	C	H	E	C	K	I	N	G
■	■	U	R	E	A	■	■	U	N	I	O	N
A	S	P	I	C	■	A	P	S	E	■	■	■
F	A	T	■	O	R	L	E	■	E	D	G	E
E	L	L	■	■	O	L	A	■	■	I	L	A
W	A	Y	S	■	B	A	K	U	■	N	U	T
■	■	■	C	O	S	Y	■	R	O	O	T	S
S	T	O	A	S	■	■	P	E	C	S	■	■
T	A	J	M	A	H	A	L	■	T	A	G	S
I	S	H	■	K	E	T	U	■	A	U	N	T
R	S	A	■	A	T	O	M	■	D	R	U	M

DOWN

1 One of the United States
2 IIM grads.
3 ___ out : become unconscious
4 Breathe in
5 Famous Hindi movie of days gone by - "An a" anagram?
6 Weary sound
7 Ernest Hemmingway to his friends and admirers?
8 Find fault noisily
9 Seed vessel
10 Previous to
11 State of conflict
16 Drive into action
17 Timber
21 Collar fastener
23 An Asian ox
24 Very wicked
25 Son of Jacob
26 Horse's gait
27 Spouse
28 Old French coin
29 Singer Coolidge
31 Random Hse. mail
33 Same again
36 Cab
38 Sparing
40 Bishop's headwear
43 Sailor's call
44 Of ___ : of importance?
46 Liver secretion or ill-temper ?
47 From (2,2)
48 Let it stand!
49 Goddess of plenty
50 Feel remorse for
51 Compass pt.
52 A young boy



CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

MWH TPYCM SIMJ FT B YHKFUIMPFGBYJ

PC MF QHM BDBJ DPMW PM.

TODAY'S CLUE: M EQUALS T

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: If you think you can win, you can win. Faith is necessary to victory.

Ingenuous tree-top internet solution

School teacher in Kodagu builds 20-ft classroom atop mango tree to cross connectivity hurdle

Kushalnagar, June 30 (Akshay&BCT)- Prosperity is a great teacher, adversity even greater. Lack of connectivity in times of lockdown has brought out the best in **C.S. Satheesha,** a primary school teacher in Kodagu district, who has come up with an out-of-the-box solution.

Satheesha

At a time when many crib about lack of internet connectivity, Satheesha, a teacher at Mullur Government Primary School near Shanivarsanthe in Somwarpet Taluk, has built a full-fledged classroom on top of a tree at a height of 20 feet. And perched on the improvised classroom, complete with blackboard and other online teaching materials, he teaches lessons to students and all his sessions are interactive.

Through his ingenuity, Satheesha has touched a nerve in the country where the problem of vanishing phone signals is very real. Getting good connectivity for voice calls, let alone the internet, is a struggle in most parts. Such stories show the lack of penetration of digital access even though India boasts of being the second-largest smartphone market in the world.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore* through a video message, Satheesha said that the trunk of a mango tree was suitable to build a room-like structure with locally available materials like bamboo, wooden bars — both long and short. Also, many household discarded materials were used. After the basic structure of the room was built, primarily with bamboo, double-layer tarpaulins were covered and haystacks were spread on the top so that it can withstand the rain and also prevent summer heat, he said.

Making it attractive

For the tree house not to sway, support from the ground was given by means of wooden poles for sturdiness. "It took me two months to build the tree house and I completed a majority of the work myself as labourers are not available now. Only the woodwork was entrusted to one carpenter," he said. The tree house extends from the mango tree branch to the ground and it is supported by wooden pillars with the other side of the mango tree house closed.

After the structure was painted yellow, certain ornamental plants were planted in small pots and the tree house was decorated with locally available materials like the rims and spokes of cycle wheels painted in various colours and also painted bamboo plant holders. Even colourful chairs are placed inside the improvised classroom. Colourful bulbs are fixed to make the evening class more attractive.

Classroom environment

On what made him come up with the solution, Satheesha said that inside his home his cell phone screen blips to life one moment and lies dead frozen the next. "It was a hard task. Moreover, I do not have a terrace on top of my house as it is a Mangaluru-tiled house. Even if I got internet signals inside my home, I could not have had a classroom environment due to the noise created by my own children and the sounds of radio and television," he explained.

Exasperated, just as he was about to give up, he was struck by the thought of climbing a tree to see if getting a few yards closer to the sky made any difference. And it did. That's how the idea came up.

Satheesha has spent money for the tree house from his own pocket. He has also spent money on purchasing the blackboard and stand, a mobile stand and a focus light so that students can clearly see what he teaches and writes on the blackboard. He teaches from class one to nine and says that the online form of education is here to stay till the pandemic is eradicated.

State Award comes his way

For his innovative methods of teaching, Satheesha has been awarded the State-level Best Teacher Award in the past. During last World Environment Day, Satheesha gave a "Challenge Accepted" task to students through WhatsApp where students were asked to plant various fruit-bearing saplings. The videos of kids planting saplings muddying their hands were captured and uploaded online.

The students responded well and asked their parents to shoot the video as they explained the benefits of that particular fruit plant. "I had uploaded all the videos and had put some of the best ones in my WhatsApp status. The students were thrilled at this prospect," said Satheesha.

On the International Day of Yoga too, the children demonstrated various yoga postures online after a two-week practice that was held for 30 minutes daily. Satheesha's online classes start daily with a 'WhatsApp Challenge' where little children are asked to name birds, animals, furniture and daily use equipment.

Teaching methodology

"Practice cards are designed in such a way that a couple of subjects are covered in a single sheet. These cards are then shown to the children and the voice record is sent through WhatsApp mentioning the task. In the evening, the answers are elicited from them. This way learning never stops and I am glad to say that my students wait for such challenges and are equally excited," he added. As part of his COVID duty, Satheesha visits some areas where his students stay. "Those who do not have smartphones are given physical exercise sheets, lesson assignments and I collect them in the evening. Here too, the response is good," he said.

Mega vaccination drive by Apollo BGS Hospitals

Mysuru, June 30 (RK&SSV)-To ramp up the National Vaccination Drive, Apollo Hospitals Group today conducted a mega COVID vaccination drive Pan India. The drive was held by Apollo BGS Hospitals in city also to administer vaccine to the general public at the rate prescribed by the Government of India.

The drive started at 9.30 am at three places — Hospital's main unit, at Ganabharathi and also at its tied-up Brindavan Hospital. It will go on up to 7.30 pm. The rate per dose of Covishield vaccine is Rs. 880 and Rs.1,410 for Covaxin. A number of citizens turned up at these Centres to get vaccinated against payment as the Government sites are temporarily shut. Even on-the-spot registration was allowed to take the jab. "We have a stock of 15,000 doses. I appeal to citizens to make use of it," said Ravi Kumar, Chief Operating Officer, Apollo BGS Hospitals, Mysuru.

The vaccination drive was carried out at over 200 Apollo vaccination centres spread across 50 cities in the country.

At Maharani's

Meanwhile, free vaccination for College students began at Maharani's College today. The students were vaccinated only after swab testing at the entrance of the main gate. They were given to choose between Covishield or Covaxin. Chamaraja MLA L. Nagendra visited the College to supervise the free vaccination drive. MCC Health Inspectors were present at the venue.

'No Stock' at Govt. Vaccination Sites

(Continued from page 1)

The Government institutions which included Hospitals, Urban Primary Health Centres (UPHCs), Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Taluk Hospitals and Community Health Centres, across the District, have put up 'No Stock' boards to dissuade people from flocking these centres. However, vaccination has been going in certain Colleges and Private Hospitals. In fact, the vaccine has been out of stock since yesterday and vaccination has come to a standstill in almost all Centres.

The PHCs and UPHCs situated on Chamaraja Double Road, Bannimantap, Paduvarahalli, Kumbarakoppal, Metagalli, Srirampura, Dattagalli, JP Nagar and Nazarbad, which were attracting large number of people daily, wore a deserted look with no stock of vaccines. A few citizens vented out their ire against the Government for not providing sufficient quantity of vaccine to hold this drive uninterrupted.

An Officer in Health Department told *SOM* that the Government institutions have the capacity to vaccinate 25,500 people daily across the district. The vaccine stock of 37,000 doses had been diverted to vaccinate College students as per the directions of the Government. But still the Colleges were facing shortage due to good response from students.

Stock next week?

It is learnt, Karnataka is expecting to receive around 2 lakh to 3 lakh doses on July 2 or 3, of which around 10,000 doses may be allotted to Mysuru. Till then, vaccination will not take place in any of the Government sites.

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Prof. N. Usha rani, Ph.D.,
Smt. N. Nagarathna, M.A.,
Ms. H.N. Lakshmi, B.E.,

Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens, Mysuru
Press Release Date:25.06.2021

WALK- IN- INTERVIEW

Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens, Mysuru, is proposing to engage Biologist purely on Contract basis. Walk-in-interview for the selection of suitable candidate is scheduled on **08.07.2021 at 11.00 a.m.** at the office of the undersigned. Interested candidate below age 28 years are having M.sc in **"Forestry/ Wildlife Management/ Zoology/Applied Zoology"** can participate in the walk-in-interview along with supported documents. Candidates with experience in the field will be given preference.

Sd/-Executive Director,
Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens, Mysuru
DIPR/DD-MYS/MCA/D-21/2021-22

Congratulation

Dr|| BELLIPADY SHYAM PRASAD SHETTY
Associate Professor and Head of the Department, Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery, JSS Hospital, was **awarded Ph.D.** in the faculty of Medicine by JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research for his thesis on
"Determinants and Predictors of Death in COPD at a Tertiary Teaching Hospital in South India"
submitted under the guidance of
Prof. P.A. Mahesh, Pulmonologist, JSS Hospital, Mysuru.
Best wishes from family and friends

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